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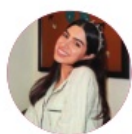
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Birthday done right — Khushi Kapoor, who turned 24, took to social media to share glimpses of the most perfect birthday surprise from her friends. On Tuesday, the actress took to her Instagram and posted photos from the pajama party

Richa, Ali 'immensely proud'

Richa Chadha and Ali Fazal's production 'Girls Will Be Girls' has been nominated for Gotham Awards in the Breakthrough Director category. The Bollywood couple said that they are immensely proud of director Shuchi Talati.

This year, the Gotham Awards are led by notable contenders such as Anora and Zendaya's "Challengers" alongside Talati's nomination. Produced by Bollywood powerhouses Richa Chadha and Ali Fazal, Girls Will Be Girls has garnered international acclaim, recently winning two major awards at the Sundance Film Festival and sweeping the awards at MAMI, India's largest film festival. These accolades have positioned the film as one of the most anticipated releases in the Indian independent film circuit.

"I am incredibly honored to be recognised by the Gotham Awards," said Shuchi Talati.

She added: "This nomination is not just a personal milestone; it reflects the collective efforts, creativity, and passion of everyone involved in Girls Will Be Girls. Our film seeks to illuminate the complexities of female experiences in a fresh and engaging way, and I hope it resonates deeply with audiences."

"This recognition inspires us to continue pushing boundaries in storytelling."

Richa and Ali jointly expressed their pride: "We are immensely proud of Shuchi and the entire team behind Girls Will Be Girls. This nomination is a testament to the hard work, dedication, and vision that went into creating this film." They said that as producers, they have always aimed to tell authentic stories that challenge societal norms. —IANS

'It is just sinking in'

Radhika Apte reveals how her pregnancy journey has been so far

On October 16, actress Radhika Apte appeared at the BFI London Film Festival flaunting her baby bump.

While other celebs often choose creative Instagram posts to announce their pregnancy, Radhika decided to walk the red carpet. "I thought maybe they wouldn't notice the bump, but it was too big," Radhika quips. She adds, "If there were no premier, you would probably have never known. I was never going to post saying, 'Oh, I'm pregnant'. I was never going to post saying, 'Oh, we had a child'. It's private."

Radhika sits down to chat with us from London over a Zoom call and is candid to admit the challenges of pregnancy. Ask her how pregnancy is treating her, and she replies, "Not very good, actually. I haven't slept for five nights. The third-trimester insomnia has kicked in, and I just don't get any sleep, so it's been quite bad."

'Never planned kids'

Talking about her pregnancy journey so far, the Sacred Games actress shares, "I never had any plans to have children. So, this has been quite a twist and quite a big turning point. It was a lot to process. I never really intended to or wanted children. (So) I also never looked into what pregnan-

cy means or what happens when you're pregnant. What are the changes that the body goes through? There's so much sacredness attached to pregnancy that nobody tells you the truth because pregnancy is very hard. Pregnancy is not fun. Some people have a better pregnancy; for some, it's easier than other people. But it's a very subjective case. Pregnancy is very hard, and bodies constantly go through very big changes. So, it's been a hard journey. I do not wish to lie about it. It's been very hard to prepare yourself psychologically and physically for what is coming, especially if you're a very active person." She adds, "The first trimester I was having such a hard time. I had terrible bloating. I was terribly constipated. I had nausea. I was filming at 40 degrees for three months straight. I was having a meltdown all the time. And people were telling me you need to be happy because you're having a child. I wanted to punch them."

The Andhadhun actress admits she and her London-based, musician husband Benedict Taylor "didn't really want to have children". "We were shocked and in denial till about two weeks ago. We don't even know how to dress a baby. Finally, it's sinking in now."

—Vinay MR Mishra, ETimes



Change has come

Manisha Koirala, the iconic actress known for her versatile performances in Bollywood and regional cinema, has had a career that has spanned decades, leaving an indelible mark on Indian films.

In a candid interview with ANI, she shared insights into her evolution as an actress. Looking back at her early years in the industry, Manisha observes a striking difference between actresses of her generation and those in the industry today. "A lot of difference," she said, adding, "Today, the girls are much wiser. They are so sure of what they want out of life.



They are more disciplined, focused, and some of them are superbly talented from day one."

She acknowledged that her own journey was quite different. "Honestly speaking, I learned on the job," adding, "I became better per film, with the good directors I worked with. I remember during '1942: A Love Story', I learned what good acting was."

For Manisha, the learning curve was steep, and her dedication to her craft saw her evolve into one of the finest actresses of her generation.

— ANI



SANDALWOOD SHOTS
 Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Independent movie

Mee Pinaki Janardhan, who has handled the megaphone for an independent movie House of Manikanta. The movie's shooting was held at Kanteerava Studios for 10 days.

"House of Manikanta is a survival drama. I came across an image of a haunted house while working as associate director. I thought of making a movie based on the image of the house. I wrote the script for the movie but could not get the support

from well-known producers in Sandalwood. With no one evincing interest to bankroll it, I raised funds with the help of my family members and well-wishers. I am planning to release the movie on an OTT platform," said Pinaki.

He said a major portion of the funds was spent on putting up the set of a haunted



house at Kanteerava Studios. "The haunted house is the hero of the movie. The shooting was held for 12 hours per day," he said, adding that Govinde Gowda, who is known for playing the comedian or hero's sidekick in Kannada movies, has played a different role in this film.

The director said the lack of support from the producers in Sandalwood made him become an independent director and producer for the movie. "The film revolves around the incidents that take place in three to four hours at a haunted house," he said.

Song released

The team of Rudra Garuda Purana released a song — Kanmunde bandu — at Kalavidara Sangha on Sunday. Veteran character actor KS Sridhar released the song while another veteran character actor Avinash announced the movie's release date. Both play police officers in the movie.

Rishi, who has acted in movies such as Operation Alamelamma and Ramana Avatara, plays the lead in Rudra Garuda Purana while Priyanka Kumar is paired opposite him.



On the occasion, Rishi paid tributes to the late Puneeth Rajkumar. "Two people — director and producer — play key roles in making a good movie. Nandeesh, who directed this movie, wrote a good script and producer Ashwini Lohith has provided all facilities during the shooting. Rudra Garuda Purana belongs to action and thriller genres. I play a police officer in the movie. I cannot reveal more details about my character. I am happy to get an opportunity to work with a good team," Rishi said.

The movie has all elements to entertain the audiences, director Nandeesh said, adding the movie's teaser received good response. "Our movie has already reached the audiences through the teaser and a song. I appeal to all to watch this film at theaters," the director said.

3 THINGS TO DO



01 Carnatic music concerts

Calling all Indian classical Carnatic music lovers in the city! Spend five amazing days as Nadasurabhi Cultural Association, Koramangala, is holding its 31st Annual Music Festival with six concerts: Sikkil Gurucharan and Party (Wednesday), Abhishek Raghuram and Party (Thursday), Jayanthi Kumaresh and Party (Friday), Vishakha Hari and Party (Saturday), Neyveli Santhanagopalan and Party (Sunday, 10 am), and Malladi Brothers and Party (Sunday). **Where:** St John's Medical College Campus, Koramangala; **When:** November 6-10, 6 pm onwards



02 Music & meditation

Spend four days of soulful music, meditation, and rejuvenation with the 4th edition of the Pyramid Music Meditation Festival. Featuring 10 concerts, 50+ musicians, and 20 hours of music meditation, the fest promises a transformative experience and connection through the power of music meditation. Enjoy performances by renowned artists like Anoor Anantha Krishna Sharma, Shashank Subramaniam, Ravichandran Kulur, Sameer Rao, Ganesh Kumar, and more. The event will also include panel discussions, guided meditation sessions, and opportunities for community connection. **Where:** Pyramid Valley International, Kanakapura Road; **When:** November 8-11

03 Artistic journey of JMS Mani



Join in for the inauguration of an in-house curated exhibition, "Namma Mestru: The Artistic Voyage of JMS Mani," honouring the late artist Jaati Muniswamy Subramani (1949-2021), known as JMS Mani, an eminent artist from Karnataka. PS Kumar, President, Karnataka Lalitha Kala Academy; C Chandrasekhar, & SG Vasudev, Senior Artists I; KV Subramanyam, Senior Art Historian I; Jayakumar G Reddy, Senior Artist, will be the chief guests, and Rani S, wife of late JMS Mani, will be the guest of honour. The exhibition will be on view till December 15, 2024. **Where:** National Gallery of Modern Art; **When:** November 8, 5.30 pm

Local businessmen nurture roots of change in TC Palya

Businessmen, residents of area show support, enthusiasm to water and nurture saplings planted by BBMP on TC Palya Main Road

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All these years, not many saplings were planted on TC Palya Main Road that looks like a concrete jungle. The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Forest Department has been facing problems planting saplings due to a lack of support and encouragement from local people until a few weeks ago. Now, it is heartening to know that some of the businessmen on TC Palya Main Road are coming forward to nurture and water saplings planted by the department.

BBMP Deputy Conservator of Forests Chidananda said the contractor is assigned to plant around 250 saplings on TC Palya Main Road. The TC Palya Ex-Servicemen Association has come forward to water saplings kept for planting at its premises. "We have made arrangements for watering the saplings. We will take care of those saplings till they are planted by the contractor in and around TC Palya," said Ramesh Kasi, president of the association.

Nemaram K, who owns a hardware shop on TC Palya Main Road, said, "I want to provide water and nurture four saplings



'The contractor is assigned to plant around 250 saplings on TC Palya Main Road'; (inset) A businessman who is caring for one of the saplings on TC Palya Main Road

planted in front of our shop. I want all the shop owners and residents to encourage and support the BBMP Forest Department to plant more saplings to ensure greenery in the area."

Expressing a similar opinion, Bhagya Lakshamma, who works at an automobile showroom, said that she would make arrangements to look after three saplings planted in front of the showroom. "I want to have more saplings planted in front of our showroom, but there is no sufficient space. I will be happy if the three saplings survive and grow as huge trees in the future," she said. Similarly, Lingappa V, floor manager, Ratnadeep Supermarket, said, "The BBMP Forest Department has planted two saplings in front of the supermarket. It will not be a problem for me to water them."

"I want residents, businessmen to encourage, support BBMP Forest Dept to plant more saplings in our area"

— VP Kumar Singh, TC Palya resident

VP Kumar Singh, a resident of TC Palya appreciated the officials for their work and said, "I want residents and businessmen to encourage and support the BBMP Forest Department to plant more saplings. Once, Bengaluru was known as Garden City, but now it lacks greenery. I urge the department to expedite planting."

Meanwhile, a BBMP Forest Department contractor said that he has been facing problems in carrying out the plantation on other roads of TC Palya. "There are some residents who do not

want saplings planted in front of their buildings. I have asked them to show alternative places for planting saplings, but in vain," said the contractor.

Appealing to the residents to support the department in planting, VP Krishna, founder of KR Puram Constituency Association Welfare Federation, said that planting must be extended to the crossroads in residential areas as well. "If more saplings are planted, the concrete jungle will gradually become an oxygen factory in a few years," he said.

Transfer of MUDA case: HC seeks Siddaramaiah's stand

The Karnataka High Court issued a notice on Tuesday seeking Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's response regarding a petition that requests the transfer of the alleged Mysore Urban Development Authority's (MUDA) "scam" investigation from Lokayukta police to the Central Bureau of Investigation.

Justice M Nagaprasanna issued notices to the respondents, including the CM, his wife Paravathy, and others named in petitioner Snehmayi Krishna's petition. The court instructed the Lokayukta police, currently investigating the case, to submit

investigation details at the next hearing scheduled for November 26. The respondents were also asked to submit their objections to the petition, if any. Senior Advocate KG Raghavan, representing Krishna, stated, "Our allegation is that the investigation is not being done in a manner in which public confidence is restored."

Following Krishna's private complaint, a Special Court in Bengaluru directed the Mysore Lokayukta Police to conduct an investigation. The court ordered the police to complete the investigation and submit their findings within 90 days. — BMB

FIR filed against HDK, his son for allegedly threatening IPS officer

A FIR has been lodged against Union Minister HD Kumaraswamy, his son Nikhil Kumaraswamy, and aide Suresh Babu following allegations of threats and false claims directed at a senior IPS officer. The complaint was filed by Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) M Chandrasekhar at the Sanjay Nagar police station. Initially, a non-cognisable report (NCR) was registered, but a FIR was later filed on Tuesday upon the directive of the 42nd Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate special court.

The controversy centres around Chandrasekhar's investigation into alleged illegal

mining activities associated with HDK. In his complaint, the ADGP detailed that he had discovered additional evidence against HDK related to case number 16/2014, which prompted him to seek permission from the Governor for legal proceedings. He further alleged that during this period, HDK threatened to transfer him out of Karnataka and falsely accused him of acquiring fraudulent medical records from Bowring Hospital to remain in the state.

The police have charged HDK, Nikhil, and Babu under Section 224 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita for threatening a public servant. — BMB

Serial chain-snatcher nabbed; 157 cases solved

Man would scour areas on 2-wheeler, identify potential victims and escape routes

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In a major crackdown on inter-state crime, the Girinagar police have arrested Achuth Kumar, alias Gani, a 40-year-old from Dharwad, suspected of involvement in a staggering 157 chain-snatching cases across multiple states. Kumar was tracked down in Telangana's Charlapalli prison, where he had been detained following an attempted chain-snatching that was thwarted by vigilant locals.

Modus operandi

According to the police, Kumar's operation was both strategic and meticulously planned. He would prowl residential areas on a two-wheeler, fully helmeted to disguise his identity. After identifying potential victims and escape routes, he would approach homes and cleverly glean names from door plates.

In a recent case on August 19, he deceived a homemaker by addressing her by her husband's name, then overpowered her to steal her chain before making a swift escape.

Following the incident, Girinagar police launched an extensive manhunt, ultimately locating Kumar and securing his transfer to Bengaluru for investigation.

Chain-snatcher had his plan meticulously chalked out: He would prowl residential areas on a scooter, fully helmeted to disguise his identity. He would approach homes and cleverly glean names from door plates and use that information to gain access to victims, snatch chains and flee



Commissioner of Police B Dayananda at a press conference revealing details of the arrest, at his office on Tuesday

The police recovered 310 grams of gold jewellery, valued at ₹24.15 lakh, and seized the two-wheeler used in his crimes.

Kumar's routine involved stashing stolen valuables at a friend's house, without their knowledge and abandoning the bike used for the theft. He would later return to retrieve and sell the valuables, using the proceeds to finance his lifestyle and purchase second-hand bikes for his next offense.

Kumar's arrest brings to light his extensive criminal network across states, with police linking him to similar chain-snatching incidents throughout Karnataka and Telangana.

Tip-off helps crack multi-lakh burglary ring

A neighbour's alertness led the Peenya police to dismantle a burglary ring and recover valuables worth ₹21 lakh, including gold, silver, and electronics.

The case began on September 29 when a resident of HMT Layout, returning from a funeral, discovered his home and a tenant's residence ransacked, with several valuables missing. A vigilant neighbour had spotted unusual activity and promptly informed the homeowner.

Acting on this tip, Peenya police launched a thorough investigation, tracking down suspects across various locations. By October 5, five individuals were arrested near Seegehalli Gate on Magadi Main Road. During questioning, they confessed to the burglaries and disclosed the locations of hidden loot.

Between October 8 and October 15, Peenya police recovered 325 grams of gold, 1.8 kg of silver, a laptop, two two-wheelers, and a luxury watch, all valued at ₹21 lakh. The five suspects are now in judicial custody as police continue probing the possibility of their involvement in additional crimes.

2-wheeler thieves make quick work of bikes with keys left in

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The seemingly harmless habit of leaving a key in the ignition while parking briefly has turned several two-wheeler owners into the latest victims of a citywide theft spree.

Mico Layout Police arrested six persons for their involvement in multiple two-wheeler theft cases across the city, with the seizure of 29 two-wheelers valued at approximately ₹11.60 lakh.

The investigation began following a complaint filed on August 6. The complainant reported that he had left his two-wheeler parked outside their apartment, and left the key in the ignition. He returned

moments later to find the vehicle missing. Three similar cases were reported around the same time in the Mico Layout area.

On October 27, police officials arrested two suspects with a stolen two-wheeler near Vegacity Mall on Bannerghatta Main Road. The suspects confessed to a citywide spree, stealing bikes. This arrest led to further discoveries. The very next day, on October 28, officers arrested two more suspects in BTM Layout, who had another stolen bike in their possession. On the same day, another pair of alleged thieves were caught red-handed on Devarachikkanahalli Main Road.

The interrogation of the suspects revealed that the stolen two-wheelers were scattered across multiple vacant lots within the Mico Layout

police station boundary, leading police to conduct a series of targeted raids.

Over the course of three days, the police seized a whopping 29 stolen two-wheelers, with a combined worth of ₹11.60 lakh, and arrested six persons. Through the suspects' confessions, police linked this group to a spate of two-wheeler theft cases spanning various police jurisdictions across the city. Cases solved include incidents reported at Mico Layout, Madiwala, SJ Palya, Tilaknagar, JP Nagar, Talaghattapura, Puttenahalli, Begur, HSR Layout, City Market, SJ Park, Kaggalipur, and Sarjapur police stations. In total, 17 cases have been solved thus far, and the investigation is ongoing to trace the remaining 12 vehicles' owners.

BM WoW Wednesdays

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2 arrested in ₹1.37-cr drug bust

A Wilson Garden Police arrested two men involved in the sale of banned substances MDMA crystals and cocaine, seizing drugs worth over ₹1.37 crore. The operation, carried out on October 28 and 29 led to the confiscation of 975 grams of MDMA crystals, 407 grams of cocaine, two weighing machines and two phones.

According to the police, a tip-off from an informant alerted officers to drug activity near Hombegowda Playground. They immediately launched a raid, arresting one suspect at the scene. The police are yet to identify the supplier. **BMB**

Infant found dead in water tank

A one-month-old girl child was killed and was found in the overhead tank of the house in Iggalur, Anekal on Monday

The baby, who was born premature, was discharged from the hospital only last week, as she had respiratory problems. According to the police, the mother Archana who was living at her parents' house with the baby, alerted the police at 2 pm after searching for the baby and after the police joined in, around 3 pm, the baby was found in the water sump.

The police have registered a murder case and are now analysing CCTV footage. **BMB**

Ghazal maestro live!

Marking 50 years in singer Hariharan's ghazal journey, a special event titled 'Be-Misaal' is coming to Bengaluru very soon.

The maestro will perform some of his most popular renditions that brought the ghazal genre closer to the people. **Bangalore Mirror** is proud to be a media partner for this event that is every music-lover's dream come true.



The concert is happening at **Phoenix Market City, Bengaluru, on November 9 from 7 pm onwards.**

And what is more, we have passes to the event for you.

Answer the question in **BM WoW Wednesdays** above and do not forget to follow us on our **Instagram page @bangaloremirror**



Festival lights take toll on birds and animals

During Deepavali, city's rescue centres report over hundred injuries among various species linked to firecracker noise and flashes

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During Deepavali celebrations, wildlife rescue centres in Bengaluru saw a rise in bird and animal injuries, largely caused by firecracker noise and lights. Between October 30 and November 4, the Avian and Reptile Rehabilitation Centre (ARRC) reported 126 rescues across multiple species, including 109 birds, 11 reptiles, and 6 mammals. Though not all cases were directly linked to Deepavali, the festival's impact on wildlife remains a concerning issue, especially when migratory birds pass through the region.

Wildlife experts highlight that loud firecrackers and bright lights can disrupt natural animal behaviour. Snakes, for instance, are sometimes forced out of their usual habitats due to the increased activity around them. Birds, especially those migrating, rely on environmental cues like moonlight and starlight to navigate. When artificial lights mask these, they can become disoriented, leading to dangerous collisions with buildings and windows. "We recently received a Fork-tailed Drongo Cuckoo, a winter migrant to Bengaluru, from the heart of the city. The bird had suffered severe eye trauma,



Subadult Bonnet Macquet with burn injuries

likely from a collision. Unfortunately, it did not survive," said Subiksha Venkatesh, Lead Rehabilitator.

ARRC noted that common injuries among rescued wildlife during this period included head trauma, fractures, and eye damage from impacts. Young birds and animals may also fall from their nests as their parents flee in panic due to the noise, sometimes resulting in abandonment. The ARRC has urged the public to reduce noise and light pollution during festivals, noting, "Preserving natural darkness is crucial for wildlife and has conservation value for all. By being mindful of our impact, we can help protect the natural world," added Subiksha.

The People for Animals (PFA) Wildlife Rescue Centre also reported a high number of injuries due to Deepavali celebrations. On October 31, a short-nosed fruit bat with a wing injury arrived at the centre, and on November 1, multiple birds, including an Indian cuckoo, White-rumped munia, Indian nightjar, two barn owls, and four black kites, were brought in with trauma and burn injuries. On November 2, two bonnet macaques were also rescued with severe fractures and burn wounds.

Colonel Dr Navaz Shariff, Chief Wildlife Veterinarian at PFA Hospital, explained the suffering that firecrackers can cause animals. "The loud noise causes panic, leading to

collisions, falls, and fractures. Bright lights disorient animals, sometimes causing them to flee and hide, increasing their risk of injury," he said. The centre's medical staff has treated animals for severe second and third-degree burns, wing and limb fractures in birds, and broken limbs in bonnet macaques.

Dr Shariff described the intense treatment efforts required to help injured wildlife. "We perform procedures like intramedullary pinning and plating for fractures and suture repair for patagium injuries in bats. We also conduct ultrasonography for suspected internal injuries, wound cleaning, suturing, and fluid therapy. Dehydrated animals receive hand-feeding," he said. Despite their best efforts, some animals do not

“ Loud noises cause panic, leading to collisions, falls and fractures. Bright lights disorient animals, causing them to flee and hide

— Dr Navaz S, PFA

survive due to the severity of their injuries.

Dr Shariff also urged the community to consider the impact of firecrackers on animals and avoid using them. "We ask everyone to think about the immense suffering firecrackers cause to wildlife. Let's protect our furry and feathered friends," he said.

As wildlife centres in Bengaluru continue their rescue work, experts emphasise the need for greater awareness and responsible celebration practices. By reducing firecracker use, they say, citizens can help create a safer environment for the many creatures that share the city's natural spaces.

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Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Footpath hazard Museum Road



Missing tiles on Museum Road's footpath are a serious hazard, requiring immediate barricades and warning signs for pedestrian safety.

Unsafe step Kaval Byrasandra



An unauthorised step at 4th A Cross, MM Layout, Kaval Byrasandra, endangers pedestrians, especially at night during power outages

Garbage pileup Residency Road



Junk and garbage have piled up for months in front of Devatha Plaza on Residency Road.

Nagasandra-Madavara Metro extension ready, awaits govt nod

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The Nagasandra-Madavara Metro extension was expected to open to commercial operations by October end. However, even after 25 days of receiving clearance from the Railway Safety Commissioner, the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) is currently waiting for directives from the government. This project, which includes three stations along a 3.7 km stretch of the Green Line, was launched in May 2017. Due to various reasons, it faced delays and was only completed in 2024, taking a total of 91 months to finish instead of the planned 27 months. Following the completion, various tests, including signalling as-

sessments, were conducted.

A safety inspection led by Railway Safety Commissioner Ananth Madhukar Chaudhary, along with Deputy Commissioner Nitesh Kumar Ranjan and a technical team, took place on August 3 between the Nagasandra and Madavara stations. The Railway Safety Commissioner granted permission to start train operations on August 4. Upon receiving the approval from the Railway Safety Commissioner, BMRCL wrote to the Urban Development Department (UDD) to set a date for the inauguration. The UDD has communicated this to the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), but no further processes have taken place since then. BMRCL officials stated that since they operate under both the central and state



governments, they cannot begin services without approval from both.

According to residents, political interference should not hinder the start of metro rail services on this route, which includes the Manjunathnagar, Chikkabidarakallu (Jin-

dal), and Madavara metro stations. A resident noted, "With elected representatives engrossed in by-elections, there seems to be no time for considering metro operations. They can inaugurate it whenever they want, but the train services should start first."

J Srivastha, who travels every day from Madavara to Electronic City said that hundreds like him travel to Electronics City but the absence of key Metro stretches was hampering the daily travel. He said, "Given the recent traffic chaos caused by the rains and festival season, the BMRCL and authorities must expedite the opening of the Green Line metro extension, even if it means there is no pompous inauguration ceremony. Commuters have waited patiently for more than four years and further delay is unacceptable."



'2,356 foreign nationals are currently studying in Bengaluru under student visas'

Some guests overstaying their welcome

'635 foreigners reside illegally in state; 262 including 220 from Bengaluru have been deported for overstaying'

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Nigerians top the list among various nationalities overstaying in Karnataka, as per the latest statistics till October 31, 2023. Of the 635 foreigners residing illegally in the state, 130 are Nigerians, followed by 90 Sudanese, 88 from the Democratic Republic of Congo, 67 from Yemen, 21 from Cameroon, 21 from Uganda, 19 from Bangladesh, 16 from South Sudan, 16 from Tanzania, 15 from Iran, and 14 from Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast). Surprisingly, individuals from advanced countries are also found illegally overstaying in Bengaluru, including 13 from the USA, seven from the United Kingdom, and one each from France, Germany, Israel, Kuwait, South Korea, and Russia.

In the Legislative Council last time, Home Minister G Parameshwara highlighted the issue of foreigners overstaying, revealing that there are 172 cases against 242 foreign nationals. Among them, 230 foreigners in Bengaluru are facing 160 cases, three in Bengaluru Urban district, six in Mysuru, and one each in Raichur, Uttara Kannada, and Kalaburagi. A noteworthy development is that 262 foreigners, including 220 from Bengaluru, have been deported for overstaying.

Police said that their task was detecting foreign nationals who have overstayed in the city. However, past experiences suggested that this may not be an easy undertaking. On the overstaying of foreigners, Parameshwara said that

As of end of May 2023, visas of 754 foreigners expired

— Foreigners Regional Registration Offices data

as of the end of May 2023, the visas of 754 foreigners expired, according to the data from Bengaluru's Foreigners Regional Registration Offices (FRRO). "Presently, the police are actively searching for these overstaying foreigners, and the respective police stations have been alerted to trace them. Once these illegally staying foreigners are identified, measures will be taken to deport them to their respective countries through the Ministry of External Affairs."

Parameshwara said that there was a growing occurrence of foreign nationals engaging in illegal activities, such as drug supply and sales or involvement in criminal offences. "Until the overstaying foreigners are granted an exit permit, those who are apprehended will be placed in a detention centre."

The Foreigners' Detention Centre, situated near Nelaman-gala on the outskirts of the city, serves as a lodging facility for illegal immigrants. With city police discovering that foreign nationals who were arrested on various charges under the Foreigners' Act, NDPS Act, and other laws were engaging in criminal activities while on bail, they made the decision to implement special measures to identify such individuals and present them before the FRRO. Subsequently, once the overstayers are verified, they will be transferred to the detection centre for deportation.

4,890 NRI students study in Karnataka

Meanwhile, the state, and especially Bengaluru, continues to attract young individuals from across the globe for studying. Overall, a total of 4,890 foreign students are currently studying in the state under student visas. Out of these students, 2,356 are in Bengaluru, 599 in Mysuru, 159 in Mangaluru, 377 in Ramanagar, and 297 in Belagavi.

Thief caught, gadgets worth ₹10 lakh seized

Sanjana CS
c-sanjana.s@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The police arrested a man involved in a series of thefts targeting electronic devices, recovering stolen items worth Rs 10 lakh. The suspect, who resided in a paying guest (PG) accommodation in Bhogana-halli, was caught on October 29 while attempting to leave the premises with stolen properties.

According to a theft complaint filed with Bellandur police on October 28, the victim had inadvertently left his room door open the previous night, and upon waking, he discovered that three laptops and an iPad were missing from his room. Following the complaint, the Bellandur police launched an extensive investigation. A police team, led by Inspector Ramesh, focused on the suspect's movements in and around various PGs

in the area. Officers patrolling near the PG facility in Bhoganahalli village observed the suspect behaving suspiciously around 3:20 am on October 29. He was promptly detained and, during questioning, admitted to his involvement in the recent theft reported. Further interrogation revealed that he had also stolen laptops and mobile phones from other parts of the city.

A search of the suspect's PG room in KR Puram led to



the recovery of a total of 16 laptops, four mobile phones, and an iPad, collectively valued at Rs 10 lakh. The police have so far connected the recovered devices to a theft case from Bellandur and another from the Bandepalya police station.

ಸಿರಿಗನ್ನಡಂ ಗೆಲ್ಲೆ | ಸಿರಿಗನ್ನಡಂ ಬಾಳ್ಗೆ

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Resolve I-T exemption disparity for land compensation: HC

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The Karnataka High Court has urged the Central government to resolve the issue of income tax exemption disparity for land compensation under various laws, excluding the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013.

"One cannot turn a Nelson's eye to the apparent hostile discrimination of persons losing land in acquisition process under statutes other than the 2013 Act," the court noted, highlighting the beneficial provisions for land-losers under the 2013 Act, which remain inaccessible to those affected by state legislation.

Justices Krishna S Dixit and Vijaykumar A Patil, forming the Division Bench, made these statements whilst sustaining an Income



Tax Department appeal against a single judge's ruling that had granted tax exemption to individuals whose land was acquired under State laws.

The Bench clarified that tax exemption is strictly limited to compensation under the 2013 Act, as specified by Parliament's legislation.

The Bench acknowledged significant discontent among individuals who lost land under other

statutes, not only regarding the absence of tax exemption but also concerning various enhanced compensation benefits available under the 2013 Act.

The court noted that "The benefit of package availing under the 2013 Act are pretty attractive compared to those contemplated under State legislations. Also, the amount of compensation to land-losers is much higher [under the 2013 Act]."

The Bench concluded by stating, "... ordinarily, land-losers in acquisition process, whichever be the statute, do constitute one homogeneous class, at least viewed from the angle of recompense.

It is high time that the Central government addresses this aspect of the matter and assuages the grievance of land-losing farmers, consistent with the policy content and laudable intent enacted in Section 96 of the new Act. Much is not necessary to specify." The court directed its registry to forward the judgement copies to the Ministry of Finance and the Law Commission of India.

SOIL SPORTS OF BENGALURU

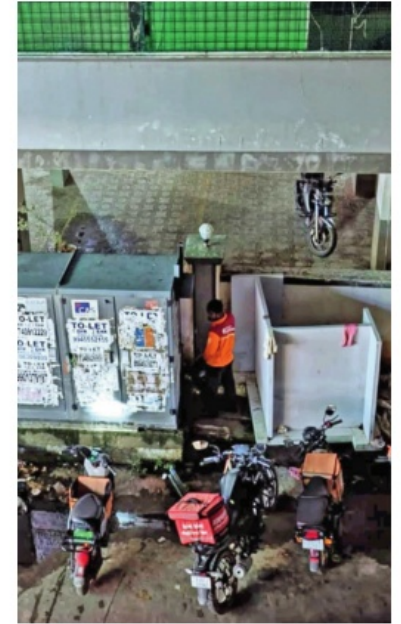
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cover their nostrils due to bad odour emanating from the yellow spot. It will bring the BBMP authorities a bad name and sully the image of Bengaluru," said Pradeep Kumar, a pedestrian.

Stating that it was distressing to see an increasing incidence of such spots in the city, Odette Katrak of Beautiful Bharat said that with more delivery persons on duty without any proper toilet facilities by their employers, the issue needs to be addressed by the service providers. "Cleaning the mess and adding plants or pictures of deities is an immediate need. In addition, it is important to make it clear that such behaviour is not acceptable. With this aim, Beautiful Bharat launched a 'Blow the whistle' campaign on World Toilet Day November 19 last year, encouraging passersby to blow a whistle, which serves the purpose of calling out the behaviour even from a distance. This is based on an idea from Malleshwaram Social," said Katrak.

She said such yellow spots are not just unhygienic, but also an unsafe region for women. "Firstly it starts stinking so fewer people walk that way, making it more deserted, and there are enough examples to show that men pretending to urinate then prey on unsuspecting women walking that way. Another urgent reason to nip it in the bud," she said.

She said that public urination is one of the four criteria for Swachh Survekshan ranking - littering, public urination, public spitting and open defecation. "The last one got a huge push with support from the government, and Swachh Bharat Abhiyan focuses on litter. But both public urination and spitting lack concerted programmes at the government level. This is a reason our other focused campaign in this bucket, the StopIndiaSpitting movement, is slower in bringing the impact potential



A yellow spot on the footpath opposite St. Martha's Hospital on KG Road

than if backed by governments across the country too," she said.

Amaresh Lakshminarayana, president of Green Glen Layout, Bellandur said that public urination has become a growing concern in Bengaluru, especially with the rise of delivery services, cloud kitchens, and cloud stores. "Premise owners should provide adequate toilet and parking facilities for delivery personnel. Unfortunately, many buildings lack these essential amenities.

We have brought this to the notice of the Joint Commissioner and BBMP authorities. We have identified four specific locations within Green Glen Layout where public urination is prevalent, primarily due to delivery boys and tech park cab drivers who park their vehicles within the residential area," said Lakshminarayana.

Citizens not able to have a say, say conservationists

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

green cover in the past. This has so far ensured that the city retains green patches amid unprecedented rate of urbanisation. However, it is distressing to see that even Defence is unable to find alternate locations for their projects so these trees can be saved," said Dattatraya Devare, trustee of Bangalore Environment Trust.

City-based green activists also raise concerns regarding Karnataka High Court's order on public notices for tree felling not being followed as desired. Tree activists and conservationists say the authorities are merely following the order in letter but not in spirit.

The underline that while the idea behind bringing the process of putting up public notice was to ensure that the citizens, the biggest stakeholders of any development project, have a say. However, it has been reduced to a ritual.

"The public notice by BBMP was issued just before the long Deepavali weekend. Even if a handful of citizens were interested in raising objections, it

would have been virtually impossible. These campuses are inaccessible to the public without due permission. Getting permission from authorities itself is a time consuming process," added Devare.

In another public notice issued by South Western Railways (SWR), SWR has requested the forest department for enumeration of 72 trees standing in the project area, proposing removal of 49 trees for construction of North Side Basement at Bangalore Cantonment Railway Station.

"SWR should thoroughly examine their plan to avoid any tree felling. While these notices talk about a smaller number of trees, the overall impact is high.

The amount of green cover removed for SWR and Karnataka Rail Infrastructure Development Company Limited (K-RIDE) projects is overwhelming. Citizens have already expressed their discomfort about K-RIDE's proposal to axe over 33,000 trees to facilitate the Bengaluru Suburban Railway Project (BSRP)," said a city-based activist.

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, SYED HAMEED, S/o. Syed Abdul Gaffar, residing at No.12/1, Mohammed Ghouse Lane, Tasker Town, Shivajinagar, Bengaluru-51. state that both the names SYED HAMEED & SYED MURTUZA also known as SYED HAMEED are of same person and I will be known as SYED HAMEED for all purposes. Vide affidavit, dated 26/10/2024 Sworn before Notary Meer Hassan Bangalore

I, Mohsin Khan Inamdar S/o Najir Ahmad R/o Flat no 232, Sri Balaji Whitewoods, Kodigehalli MN RD, Ayyappanagar, Kadugodi, Bangalore-67 have changed my minor son name from Mohammad Mateen Mohsin Khan Inamdar to Mateen Mohsin Khan Inamdar, vide affidavit dated 04-Nov-24 sworn before notary J Anandkumar.

I, SWARNALATHA, residing at House No.11/1, Swarnanilaya, Chikkaswamy Lyt, Jaraganahalli, JP Nagar 6th Phase, Bengaluru - 560078, have changed my name to SWARNALATHA K, vide affidavit dated 05/11/2024, sworn before notary Venkataraju H G, Bangalore.

I, KANNAMMA, R/a No.22, 2nd Main, Attiguppe, Vijaynagar, Bangalore-40. I have changed my name to KANAKA, vide affidavit, dated 05/11/2024 Sworn before Notary: M K Devaki. Bangalore

I, KIRAN PILLAI, S/O Sreelatha pillai, Aged about 33 years, residing at D104, Aryan Opulence, Uttarahalli Main road, Kengeri, Bangalore 560060, I have changed my name to KIRAN GOPINATH PILLAI, vide affidavit dated:28.10.2024 before notary S.R. THULASIKRISHNA, Bengaluru.

I, Vijayalakshmi Lakshminisha W/o Lakshminisha Krishnasetty R/o 1370, 9th F cross, SBI colony Sarakki gate, JP nagar 1st ph, B'luru 560078 have changed my name to Vijayalakshmi Sampangiramaiah Affidavit Dt.05/11/2024 notary Harisha G, B'luru

LOST: I, Anisha D Ramanna D/o Lakshminisha Shrivastava, R/at No.24, Bhagya Bhavan, K.R road, Basavangudi, Bangalore-560004, have lost my original 10th Std. Statement of Marks, issued by Jannabai Narsee School on March 1991, Index No.T/283/008, regarding this I have given a police complaint. If anybody found please contact 7829001919 or handover to the nearest police station.

LOST & FOUND

I Liyakath Ulla Khan S/o Rahmath Ulla Khan No 27 3rd Main Blr-45 have changed my name to Liyakhat Ulla Khan for all purposes.

I Krishna D/o, Kiran C R/o No - 402, Siri Dew Drop, 7th main, Nandakumar layout have changed my name to Krishna Kiran for all purposes, effective from 4/11/2024.

I Tanve Arun Shah R/o #15/K, 378/15, Panchamrut, Papalah Layout, 1st main road, Behind Devamatha school, Coconut groove, Horamavu, Bangalore 560043 have changed my name to Tanvi P Shah.

I Jyothi Bhadregowda W/O, Venugopal Lakshminiah R/o No 641 2nd Cross 1st Main Bemb 3rd Stage Rajarajeshwari Nagar Bangalore - 560098 have changed my name to Jyothi Venugopal.

I Rani Devi W/O, Sheo Nandan Prasad Singh R/o 62, Shiva Krupa, 13th B Cross, Balaji Layout, Bayanpalya, Kanakapura Main Road, Bengaluru-62 have changed my name to Rani Singh.

I, Varsha Amrutha Chandrashekhara d/o Chandrashekhara L R/o No 88 Chandan Farm Nursery, Dodda Aladamara Road Ramohalli, B'luru-560060 have changed my name to Varshamrutha C vide Affidavit Dt:05/11/2024 Before notary B S Padmaprasad, B'luru

Wetlands keep Halasuru Lake clean and aesthetic

20 floating wetlands with around 10 saplings each were installed by BBMP lakes department around 6 months ago; visitors welcomed by clean lake ever since

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Once, the wetland on the western side of Halasuru Lake was not only a health hazard but also an eyesore for people who visited the water body for a walk in the morning and evening. Now, the lake water is clean, thanks to floating wetlands installed by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Lakes Department in association with some organisations.

Earlier, it was tough to go near the wetland due to silt, dirty water with algae, and bad odour. Now, the portion of the lake near the idol immersion pond, with around eight floating wetlands, has become a visual treat for lake visitors.

Some of the people who visited the lake appreciated the BBMP Lakes Department and the organisations involved in installing the floating wetlands. "Now, the lake is clean. I am happy to see no algae in the lake water. I want the BBMP authorities, the organisations, and the volunteers to install more floating wetlands to ensure clean water in the lake," said Ashok Kumar, a resident of Sivan Chetty Garden.

The residents observed that the floating wetlands were installed at the lake six months ago. The floating wetlands will upgrade the ecological health of the lake. Each floating wetland has around 10 saplings, which absorb nutrients and convert them into oxygen.



Floating wetlands at Halasuru Lake have reduced algae and purified the water making it cleaner and aesthetically appealing

Appreciating the authorities responsible for installing floating wetlands in the lake, Vinod Kumar, a resident of Cox Town, said the portion of the lake near the idol immersion pond was full of weed and algae six months ago. "Now the portion of the lake, once an eyesore, has become a visual treat. It will be a great help if the BBMP authorities take up developmental works without delay to save the lake," said Vinod Kumar.

Manjunath S, a resident of Gupta Layout, has opined that the BBMP Lakes Department should and must direct the lake maintenance contractor to ensure cleanliness along the walking path. "It is the only lake in

We have also installed four aerators to improve water quality at Halasuru Lake. There are many proposals to develop Halasuru Lake
— Akshath Manjunath, BBMP lakes Dept

Bengaluru East that is in good condition. I want the BBMP Lakes Department to make Halasuru Lake a destination for residents for a walk in the morning and evening. If the water in the lake is clean, more people will visit the lake," Manjunath said.

Palani P, another resident,

stressed that the BBMP authorities have to take measures to ensure no sewage enters the lake to avoid pollution of the lake water.

Meanwhile, BBMP Lakes Department Assistant Executive Engineer Akshath Manjunath said around 20 floating wetlands were installed at Halasuru Lake. "The floating wetlands have reduced algae at Halasuru Lake. We have also installed four aerators to improve water quality at Halasuru Lake. We have installed two floating wetlands at Byrasandra Lake in CV Raman Nagar Assembly constituency on a pilot basis. There are many proposals to improve and develop Halasuru Lake," said the assistant executive engineer.

Kambala near zoo a violation; HC hearing awaited

After halting the first Kambala race of this season on October 26 in Bengaluru, the Karnataka High Court on Tuesday adjourned the hearing on the matter to November 12 in light of a new amendment application filed by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA).

The fresh application seeks restriction on the upcoming Kambala event in Pilikula, adjoining Pilikula Biological Park in Dakshina Kannada.

The last Kambala event in Pilikula was held in December 2014 and was thereafter stopped following objections regarding the detrimental effect on zoo animals. However, the zilla Kambala Samiti in Dakshina Kannada reintroduced the event in Pilikula in the current Kambala season, and it is slated for November 17.

"Kambala events result in loud noise, bright light, and a big crowd. During the event, high-volume loudspeakers, bands, and firecrackers are used. Thus, organising the event adjoining Pilikula Biological Zoo will have detrimental effects on the captive animals, amounting to cruelty," said a PETA representative.

The director of Pilikula Zoo had issued a letter on September 6, 2024, to the chairman of the Pilikula Development Authority, stating that captive wild animals of the zoo require a non-disruptive and noise-free environment. High-decibel sounds affect their behaviour and breeding. During earlier Kambalas, the animals showed abnormal behaviour and took weeks to return to normalcy.

The director also highlighted that conducting the event near Pilikula Biological Zoo is in violation of Rule 10 of the Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009, and Section 38(J) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

The animal advocacy group requested the court restrict Kambala to its traditional rural locations in Udupi and Dakshina Kannada districts.

— BMB

BM Education

Higher education institutions urged to ban single-use plastics

Sridhar Vivan
sridhar.vivan@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @sridharvMirror

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has issued a directive to higher education institutions (HEIs) nationwide, urging them to take immediate steps to eliminate single-use plastics from their campuses. M Jagadesh Kumar, chairman of UGC, said, "There is a critical need to reduce dependence on single-use plastics, noting that their harmful impacts extend beyond short-term convenience, posing significant threats to the environment, public health, and waste management systems."

HEIs hold a unique position in promoting sustainable practices by educating students on environmental responsibility and driving impactful research on sustainable alternatives. By fostering a sense of ethical citizenship, institutions can cultivate a more environmentally conscious student body, further extending these values to the surrounding community. The UGC envisions that HEIs, through student engagement and community activism,

can be key in driving the shift toward reduced plastic dependency. "To support these efforts, the UGC has distributed guidelines to HEIs, detailing actionable steps to minimise plastic use, specifically targeting single-use plastics. These advisories emphasise the importance of proper disposal and management of plastic waste and provide a framework for HEIs to follow. A copy of these guidelines has been attached for implementation," he added.

The UGC has provided clear steps for HEIs to create a plastic-free campus environment. Key measures include banning single-use plastics in canteens, shopping areas, and hostels. Additionally, institutions are encouraged to conduct awareness campaigns and workshops on the environmental hazards of single-use plastics, helping students understand the importance of sustainable practices. Students are also urged to avoid bringing non-biodegradable plastics to campus, extend this mindset to their households, and aim to cultivate plastic-free habits at home. HEIs are advised to install water dispensers to reduce the use of plastic bottles and to promote alternatives such as cloth and paper

bags. Further, HEIs participating in the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan are encouraged to expand this initiative to their adopted villages. These institutions can help foster plastic-free communities outside of campus.

To further engage students and promote innovation, the UGC recommends that HEIs organise essay competitions and hackathons on topics related to reducing plastic waste and

UGC guidelines provide a framework for HEIs to minimise plastic use
— M Jagadesh Kumar, UGC chairman

exploring sustainable alternatives. All affiliated institutions are requested to follow government COVID-19 protocols and to document their activities on the University Activity Monitoring Portal (UAMP). The UGC has also specified a list of single-use plastic items to be discontinued on campus, including plastic and thermocol cutlery, plates, cups, glasses, trays, straws, and stirrers. Additionally, plastic decorations, flags,

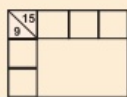


Cutlery bank to reduce single-use plastic launched at Jain PU College, Moodbidri

packing films, and PVC banners under 100 microns are to be phased out. "UGC recommends limiting the use of plastic carry bags, artificial plastic flowers, PET bottles under one litre, and plastic folders. Through these initiatives, the UGC aims to guide HEIs towards sustainable, plastic-free practices that benefit both the campus environment and the wider community," Kumar added.

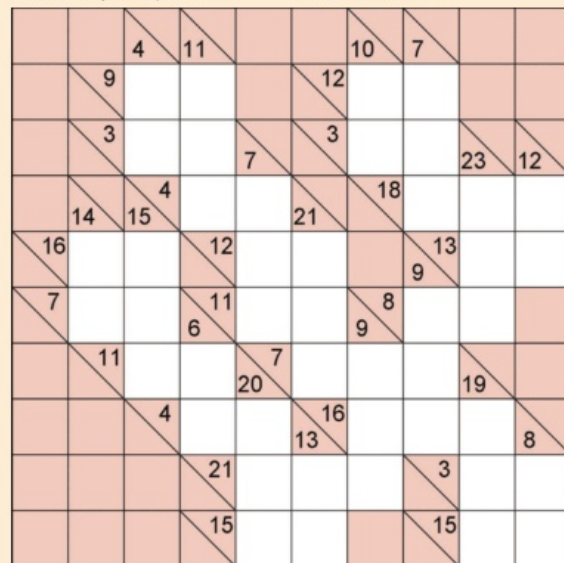
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

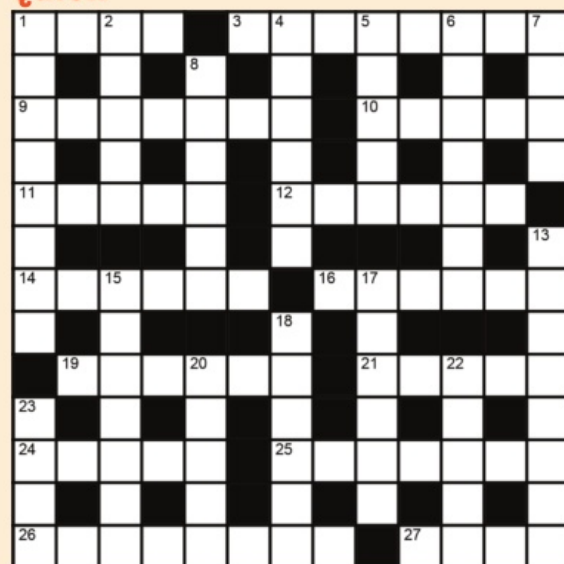


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

- 1 Get by (4)
- 3 Inferred with little evidence (8)
- 9 Coddle (7)
- 10 Shining, light-hearted (5)
- 11 A German, in a derogatory way? (5)
- 12 Overturns; spills (6)
- 14 Sign up; enrol (6)
- 16 Effect (6)
- 19 Unit of current (6)
- 21 Fling (5)
- 24 All ____: confused? (2,3)
- 25 Intruder or encroacher (7)
- 26 Sermons (8)
- 27 Sharp projections (4)

DOWN

- 1 Area popular with shoppers (8)
- 2 Italian city (5)
- 4 Advantageous (6)
- 5 Thinks or ponders over? (5)
- 6 Singers Frank and Nancy (7)
- 7 24 hour periods (4)
- 8 Enthuses or pleases (6)
- 13 Flight attendants (8)
- 15 Money paid down at once or in one instalment? (4,3)
- 17 Incentive (6)
- 18 Settle or resolve (6)
- 20 Electronic message (5)
- 22 Former Indian paceman ____ Pratap Singh (5)
- 23 A deep cut (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: Y EQUALS S
IBN YNCKNIY DF YZCCNYH HKN
H PDDR QLFN HXR H YINHGRG
ODM. SG QLFN IDWR SN.



Linemaro

I don't normally come up to people like this, but you are too cute to resist.



Mindchow

Time you enjoy wasting is not always wasted.



Joke of the day

Women and cats will do as they please, and men and dogs should relax and get used to the idea.

Loop

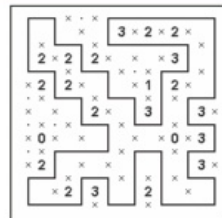
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

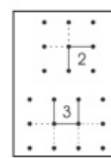
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) - Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

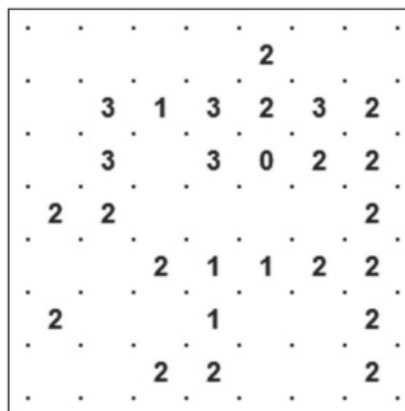
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



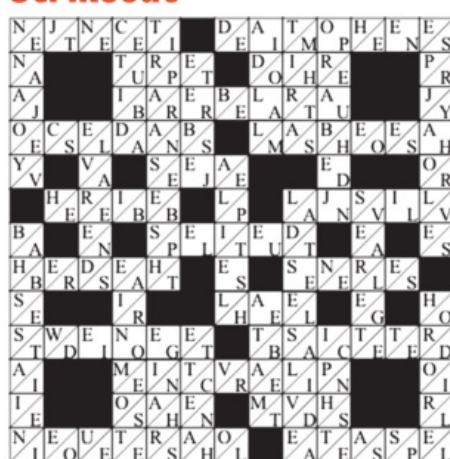
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

- 1 Aches; 6 A taro;
- 7 A bolt; 8 I lake;
- 9 Olden

DOWN

- 1 Cal BA; 2 Oh LOL;
- 3 Radio; 4 Teaks;
- 5 An tee

Mensapuzzle

One of the numbers is incorrect in this number sequence.

2 4 8 16 20 22 44 46 92

Which number is wrong, and which one of the following should replace it?

- A) 1
- B) 10
- C) 12
- D) 88



Bull's eye

How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

09 Average; 10 Good; 12 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge



To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Easy

$3 \times 5 + 7 - 3 = 2$

Medium

$4 \times 4 + 5 - 9 = 27$

Hard

$3 \times 5 + 7 - 3 = 52$

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Mouth is different. 2. Seat is different. 3. Bracelet is lower. 4. Finger is shorter. 5. Neck is not as long. 6. Hair dryer is shorter.

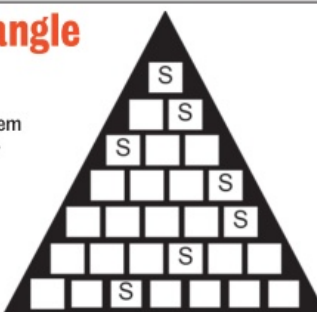
Riddler

I wear the face of a leader of men. My financial worth is small and my appearance not impressive, yet my presence is a passport to any country and society. I have the entree alike to the boudoir and the armed; I penetrate to royal palaces and to the far corners of the earth. In my youth I am bright and fresh looking; later, my face is marred and disfigured and I am cast aside as nothing; but when I am very old I am eagerly sought, and a safe refuge is provided for me, where I am exhibited to admiring visitors. What am I?

Alpha triangle

- 1 Sulphur symbol
- 2 You and me
- 3 Nearest star
- 4 Batsmen score them
- 5 Occult characters
- 6 Cared for
- 7 Ascertained

Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be



made at each step answering to the clue given.

Why Amanda had to move out of LA

Actress-singer Amanda Seyfried has shared why moving out of Los Angeles was essential for her

The actress, who is known for her work in 'Mean Girls' star, 38, now lives on a farm in upstate New York with her husband, fellow actor Thomas Sadoski, 48, and their two children, Nina and Thomas, reports 'Female First UK'. She admitted the big move was the "best decision" as it gave her "privacy, peace and nature", and was essential for her mental health. She told Forbes, "I moved upstate long before I had a family. Staying here was the best decision for privacy, peace and nature. It offers a more balanced life than the city does".

Among their many animals including chickens, numerous horses, multiple goats, and a donkey. Amanda is closest to her beloved 15-year-old Australian Shepherd, Finn, who she credits with keeping her "grounded" in the early days of her career in Hollywood.

She noted, "Having Finn to come home to when I was in my 20's in Hollywood helped keep me grounded. "My pets truly keep me balanced".

As per 'Female First UK', growing up on a farm is also giving her two children life skills from a young age.

She said, "I can see them learning what a responsibility and treat it is to care for pets, even at their young ages. I think all pets give us purpose. And because they do so much to enrich our lives, we are responsible for theirs which includes managing their health and wellness".

Amanda recently shared how she is open with her brood about "the circle of life" as they have had a few pets that have passed away. The youngsters are aware that Finn is getting older.

She told 'People' magazine, "They know he's an old man, and my daughter especially, she knows that things die, but you get a chunk of time with them, you respect them, you love them, you give them the best life they can have, and then they go, and you remember them. It's just like it's the most positive spin that you can have". The actress shared that living with many animals has made the process of talking about death with her young children easier. —IANS



Paul is Lucius

Director Ridley Scott, who is awaiting the release of his upcoming movie 'Gladiator 2', has revealed how he zeroed down on actor Paul Mescal for the lead role in the film.

The director shared that he first noticed Paul Mescal, who plays Lucius, when he starred in the acclaimed Anglo-Irish television series 'Normal People'.

Talking about the same, the director said in a statement, "He reminded me of Richard Harris crossed with a very young Albert Finney. He seemed a very sound, solid, and sympathetic actor. As this story in the script started to evolve, I kept thinking about him. I knew that he was a very good theatre actor, which to me is a plus. Theatre actors keep me honest. I tend to be very visual and move like lightning. They like to know about the story and the characters between each take".

Paul Mescal has become one of the most sought after young talents in the film industry.

Producer Douglas Wick said, "Finding a follow-up for the first movie was a daunting task — particularly since we had killed off our two leads! That meant we either had to find a new star or make one. It was an incredible risk on a big movie to choose an actor who's



never carried one. And our protagonist also had to be credible as an action hero. Ridley, the producers and the studio all held hands with Paul and jumped off a cliff. We would soon discover that Paul is one of those once-in-a-generation talents who always lands on his feet".

'Gladiator 2' also stars Joseph Quinn, Fred Hechinger, Lior Raz, Derek Jacobi, Connie Nielsen, and the legendary Denzel Washington.

The film is set to release in India on November 15 in English, Hindi, Tamil, and Telugu in 4DX & IMAX.

—IANS

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